

**** New Certification Level ****

Apparatus Operator – Aerial



Announcing the addition of Apparatus Operator – Aerial to the available levels of certification now being offered by the Massachusetts Fire Training Council.

The first offering of this certification level will be held this spring. All pertinent information is listed on page 2 of this announcement.

Location:	Massachusetts Firefighting Academy State Road, Stow, MA 01775 (978) 567-3228
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Examination Date:	March 24, 2005
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Deadline to File:	March 10, 2005
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DEPARTMENT OF FIRE SERVICES / MASSACHUSETTS FIREFIGHTING ACADEMY

DRIVER OPERATOR/AERIAL

The certification to this level will require the following:

- Step 1 – Fulfill the examination entrance criteria
- Step 2 – Submission and acceptance of an application and fee by the deadline date
- Step 3 – Successful completion of a written examination
- Step 4 – Successful completion of a practical examination

STEP ONE – EXAMINATION ENTRANCE CRITERIA

Examination entrance criteria for this level is the following:

- 1 – At least 18 years of age at the time of the examination
- 2 – Possess a high school diploma or GED at the time of the examination
- 3 – Be a member of the Massachusetts fire service. (See examination application section three (3) for details.)
- 4 – Candidates who were appointed to the Massachusetts fire service on or after January 1, 1990 shall furnish proof of certification to the level of Firefighter I by the Massachusetts Fire Training Council OR received reciprocal credit from either the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications, Inc. OR the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress.

STEP TWO – APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The attached application form must be used and the form may be duplicated. The application and fee must be submitted and received at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy no later than the deadline date noted in the examination schedule. The fee must be in the form of a personal check, bank draft, money order, municipal check, or municipal purchase order made to the order of the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy Trust Fund. All others will be rejected. Upon acceptance, the candidate will be assigned to the examination date requested on the application. All applicants will be notified by mail and if accepted will be supplied with all examination procedures.

STEP THREE – WRITTEN EXAMINATION

The section will consist of 100 multiple choice questions given in a 120 minute period designed to examine the knowledge of basic skills required by NFPA Standard 1002 for Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator, 2003 edition, in the following subject areas: General, Apparatus equipped with an attack or fire pump; and NFPA Standard 1500 on Fire Departmental Occupational Safety and Health Program, 2002 edition, in the following subject areas: Fire Apparatus, Equipment, and Driver/Operators.

The reference materials from which the questions for this written examination will be drawn are the following International Fire Service Training Association (IFSTA) manuals.

Aerial Apparatus Driver/Operator Handbook, first edition

When available, specific chapters for each reference manual will be provided in the candidate's acceptance letter.

Upon successful completion of this written examination (70% or greater), the candidate will be assigned to a practical examination. The candidate will be notified by mail of the examination date, time, location, and supplied with examination information to include examination procedures and all potential practical skills to be examined.

STEP FOUR – PRACTICAL SKILLS EXAMINATION

During this step, there will be a multi-station practical skills examination consisting of a walk-around inspection, a practical driving exercise on a driving skills course, and a pumping evolution. The candidate must achieve at least a 70% on each practical skills station with no failures in critical areas to receive a passing score.